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IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY PRODUCED

A new type of threshing machine, the so called Automat, has been tested at the factory of the agricultural college in Uhřetev. The machines are of simple construction and replace the work of as many as ten workers; they are operated by only three to four men, whereas at present the threshing machines are operated by 10 to 14 men. The machines are more efficient than the so-called small automats of last year, and are equipped with automatic sheaf handlers, on which the grain is thrown directly from the wagons. The tests have shown that the machine can grind 17 metric centners or more per hour. Czechoslovak factories are preparing for next year another modern model with higher output per hour.

BEGIN FIRST SUGAR CAMPAIGN OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN -- Lidove Noviny, No 235, 7 Oct 49

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The industry could not prevent financial loss in recent years because the domestic price of sugar did not correspond to the increased costs of operation. The industry was grateful for the government decision lowering the tax of 600 crowns per quintal to 160 crowns. Thus the industry has been assured that it will not suffer great financial losses in future campaigns and most of the mills will now cover their production costs.

There are always great prospects for the export of sugar. Czechoslovakia is now the greatest exporter of beet sugar. During the 1948-49 campaign it produced 569,000 tons of sugar, of which 210,000 tons were designated for export. The refined sugar is already of prewar quality.

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